

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

TEGRE MATLOCK,

Plaintiff

Case No. 2:20-cv-02024-RFB-VCF

ORDER

v.

CLARK COUNTY DETENTION CENTER et  
al.,

Defendants

This action began with a *pro se* civil rights complaint filed pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 by a state prisoner. On July 23, 2021, the Court issued an order dismissing the complaint with leave to amend and directed Plaintiff to file an amended complaint within 30 days. (ECF No. 12). The 30-day period has now expired, and Plaintiff has not filed an amended complaint or otherwise responded to the Court's order.

District courts have the inherent power to control their dockets and “[i]n the exercise of that power, they may impose sanctions including, where appropriate . . . dismissal” of a case. Thompson v. Hous. Auth. of City of Los Angeles, 782 F.2d 829, 831 (9th Cir. 1986). A court may dismiss an action, with prejudice, based on a party's failure to prosecute an action, failure to obey a court order, or failure to comply with local rules. See Ghazali v. Moran, 46 F.3d 52, 53-54 (9th Cir. 1995) (affirming dismissal for noncompliance with local rule); Ferdik v. Bonzelet, 963 F.2d 1258, 1260-61 (9th Cir. 1992) (affirming dismissal for failure to comply with an order requiring amendment of complaint); Carey v. King, 856 F.2d 1439, 1440-41 (9th Cir. 1988) (affirming dismissal for failure to comply with local rule requiring *pro se* plaintiffs to keep court apprised of address); Malone v. U.S. Postal Service, 833 F.2d 128, 130 (9th Cir. 1987) (affirming dismissal for failure to comply with court order); Henderson v. Duncan, 779 F.2d 1421, 1424 (9th Cir. 1986) (affirming dismissal for lack of prosecution and failure to comply with local rules).

In determining whether to dismiss an action for lack of prosecution, failure to obey

1 a court order, or failure to comply with local rules, the court must consider several factors:  
2 (1) the public's interest in expeditious resolution of litigation; (2) the court's need to  
3 manage its docket; (3) the risk of prejudice to the defendants; (4) the public policy favoring  
4 disposition of cases on their merits; and (5) the availability of less drastic alternatives.  
5 See Thompson, 782 F.2d at 831; Henderson, 779 F.2d at 1423-24; Malone, 833 F.2d at  
6 130; Ferdik, 963 F.2d at 1260-61; Ghazali, 46 F.3d at 53.

7 Here, the Court finds that the first two factors, the public's interest in expeditiously  
8 resolving this litigation and the Court's interest in managing the docket, weigh in favor of  
9 dismissal. The third factor, risk of prejudice to Defendants, also weighs in favor of  
10 dismissal, since a presumption of injury arises from the occurrence of unreasonable delay  
11 in filing a pleading ordered by the court or prosecuting an action. See Anderson v. Air  
12 West, 542 F.2d 522, 524 (9th Cir. 1976). The fourth factor—public policy favoring  
13 disposition of cases on their merits—is greatly outweighed by the factors in favor of  
14 dismissal discussed herein. Finally, a court's warning to a party that his failure to obey  
15 the court's order will result in dismissal satisfies the "consideration of alternatives"  
16 requirement. Ferdik, 963 F.2d at 1262; Malone, 833 F.2d at 132-33; Henderson, 779  
17 F.2d at 1424. The Court's order requiring Plaintiff to file an amended complaint within 30  
18 days expressly stated: "It is further ordered that, if Plaintiff fails to file an amended  
19 complaint curing the deficiencies outlined in this order, the Court will dismiss this action  
20 with prejudice for failure to state a claim." (ECF No. 12 at 8). Thus, Plaintiff had adequate  
21 warning that dismissal would result from his noncompliance with the Court's order to file  
22 an amended complaint within 30 days.

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1           It is therefore ordered that this action is dismissed with prejudice based on  
2   Plaintiff's failure to file an amended complaint in compliance with this Court's July 23,  
3   2021, order and for failure to state a claim.

4           It is further ordered that the Clerk of Court will close this case and enter judgment  
5   accordingly.

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7           DATED THIS 2<sup>nd</sup> day of September 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RFB', written over a horizontal line.

RICHARD F. BOULWARE, II  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE